external standard

in chromatography

A compound present in a standard sample of known concentration and volume which is analysed separately from the unknown sample under identical conditions. It is used to facilitate the qualitative indentification and/or quantitative determination of the sample components. The volume of the external standard (standard sample) need not to be known if it is identical to that of the unknown sample.

Source:

PAC, 1993, 65, 819 (Nomenclature for chromatography (IUPAC Recommendations 1993)) on page 837